

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM SAFETY PROJECT

Changing Ways

John Howard Society

London Police Service

OISE/University of Toronto

Women's Community House

Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children

What did we do...

- Met average 6 times
- Administered B-Safer
- Targeted dynamic risk factors for support

Charges One Year Later

	Comparison (<i>n</i> =40)	Intervention (<i>n</i> =40)
Charges Domestic in Nature (one or more)		
Any Charge	27 (65.9%)	12 (29.3%)
General Charges (one or more)		
Any Charge	34 (85.0%)	18 (45.5%)
Violent Offense	21 (52.5%)	4 (10.0%)
Administrative Offense	20 (50.0%)	8 (20.0%)

Charges Two Years Later

	Comparison (<i>n</i> =40)	Intervention (<i>n</i> =40)
Charges Domestic in Nature (one or more)		
Any Charge	17 (41.5%)	5 (12.2%)
General Charges (one or more)		
Any Charge	21 (52.5%)	10 (25.0%)
Violent Offense	10 (25.0%)	6 (15.0%)
Administrative Offense	10 (25.0%)	2 (5.0%)

#1: Violent Acts

- 45 year old male
 - He recounts screaming in the kitchen and restraining his partner as she attempted to leave the room. He proceeded to destroy everything in sight, ripping down the kitchen cabinets, breaking the table and chairs and in the process severely fracturing his hand
- 25 year old male
 - current charges of assault, criminal harassment and threats of death/bodily harm to his ex common law partner.
- 23 year old male
 - Charged with domestic assault, uttering threats (ex-partner's father) and mischief under \$50.
 - A two year old (the partner's child from another relationship) was present during the altercation.

#2: Violent Threats or Thoughts

- 45 year old male
 - Engaged in self reflection and struggling with being away from his family and this lack of contact has been constantly on his focus.
 - stated that he believed that the feelings of rejection from his partner, given his current state, would increase his risk level
- 25 year old male
 - Client has no contact with any of his family and became emotionally unstable when talking about them.
- 23 year old male
 - When asked how afraid he is of harming his partner, he said that “if she really pisses me off, I’m afraid that I may get physical with her”.

#8: Employment Problems

- 25 year old male
 - Since charges, he has lost his job because his tools were left at their residence (where the partner is residing).

#9: Substance Use Problems

- 45 year old male
 - Spoke at length about his issues pertaining to substance abuse of both alcohol and marijuana.
 - Identified that if he was under the influence (especially of alcohol) he felt that his risk to his partner would increase.
- 23 year old male
 - After his mother's death, he began dealing drugs for money and quickly became addicted to oxys and whiskey

#10: Mental Health Problems

- 45 year old male
 - Client acknowledged a need to be more involved in counseling.
 - He was particularly interested in 1 on 1 counseling as he has found it more beneficial to him in the past, but has had some difficulty finding this sort of support in the community.
- 25 year old male
 - Additionally, this clinic connected him with an 8 week trauma program to work through the death of his mother.
 - Client was looking forward to this opportunity as he finally felt comfortable enough with the people to attend. He shared that after these recent charges came up, he was removed from the program and cut off from all services at this clinic.

Other Considerations

risk factor is likely to play a causal role in the person's decisions to perpetrate spousal assault, or is likely to interfere with risk management plans.

- 45 year old male
 - he stated “I have lost everything I ever wanted or needed. I have hurt and shamed my partner and kids, I am a broken man. It will take the rest of my life to make up for what I have done
- 23 year old male
 - Client painted a bleak picture of his childhood during his sessions.
 - At the age 7, his Mother passed away after a three year battle with breast cancer.
 - He described being completely alone from that point on.
 - He had next to no relationship with his father, who also wanted nothing to do with him after the passing of his mother.
 - No other family,
 - Started living on the streets at a very young age. His view of the world as dark and empty was evident as he told his life story.
 - Client continuously stated that “nobody cares about him” and that he is all alone.

